

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 3. This sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3. In Fig. 3, wrongly numbered elements have been renumbered as 305, 310, 315, 320, 325, and 330.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed April 8, 2005. Claims 1-6, 8-15, 17-18 and 20 remain in this application. Claims 7 and 16 are cancelled by this amendment. Claim 19 is cancelled in this response as a result of a restriction requirement.

Election/Restrictions

In Section 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner required that the Applicant elect the claims of either Group I or Group II. In response the Applicant is electing the claims of Group I, which are claims 1-18 and 20, without traverse. Therefore, as a result of this restriction requirement the Applicant has cancelled claim 19.

Information Disclosure Statement

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that he did not receive the cited foreign reference (JP7334843) and requested that the Applicant resubmit the foreign reference. The Applicant only has access to the abstract of the foreign reference and has submitted the abstract of JP7334843 in this response.

Drawings

In the Office Action the Examiner objected to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 170 [0008]; 305, 310, 315, 320, 325, and 330 [0031]; and 430 [0035]. The Applicant has amended paragraph [0008] to eliminate 170, amended

figure 3 to include the proper reference signs 305, 310, 315, 320, 325, 330, and amended paragraph [0035] to correct the reference to 430.

The Examiner also objected to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: 510 and 565 (see Figures 5A-5D). Paragraph [0038] has been amended to include the reference character 510. Additionally, the Applicant has amended paragraphs [0039] and [0040] changing mislabeled reference numbers 465 to 565.

The Examiner also objected to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character has been used to designate both "curve" and "second bias voltage" (see [0044]). Paragraph [0044] has been amended to correct this mislabeling.

Specification

In the Office Action the Examiner objected to the disclosure because of the following informalities: "180" should be "480" at [0033], line 1; and "187" should be "487" at [0039], line 6. The Applicant has amended paragraphs [0033] and [0039] as recommended by the Examiner.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 4, 5, and 20 because of the following informalities: "said plurality target-cathodes" in claim 4 at lines 1-2 should be "said plurality of target-cathodes"; and "cathodes" should be "cathode" in claim 20 at line 6. The Applicant has amended claims 4 and 20 as recommended by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 112

In section 12 of the Office Action the Examiner rejected claims 14 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner rejected claim 14 because there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "the adjacent sets of targets." The Examiner also rejected claim 20 because there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitations "said plurality of target-cathodes" and "said at least one target-cathodes." The Applicant has amended claims 14 and 20 to overcome these objections.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

In section 17 of the Office Action the Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8-15, 17, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 6,338,777 B1 to Longstreth White. The Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 12 to include the limitations of claims 7 and 16, which the Examiner has indicated are allowable. The Applicant has also cancelled claims 7 and 16. In light of this amendment the Applicant submits that the claims are patentably distinct over the teachings of Longstreth White. The Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw his rejection of claims 1-6, 8-15, 17, and 18, and allow the claims.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 103

In section 32 of the Office Action the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-6, 8-15, 17, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 6,290,821 B1 to McLeod in view of US 6,036,824 to Hedgcoth. The Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 12 to include the limitations of claims 7 and 16, which the Examiner has indicated are allowable. The Applicant has also cancelled claims 7 and 16. In light of this amendment the Applicant submits that the claims are patentably distinct over US 6,290,821 B1 to McLeod in view of US 6,036,824 to Hedgcoth. The Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw his rejection of claims 1, 4-6, 8-15, 17, and 18, and allow the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 7 and 16 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 has been rewritten to include the limitation of claim 7 and claim 12 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 16. Consequently, claims 7 and 16 have been cancelled. In light of this amendment all of the claims should be allowable.

The Examiner stated that claim 20 would be allowable if written to overcome the claim objection presented above. Claim 20 has been amended and therefore should be allowable.

Conclusion

In light of the above amendment and remarks, this application should be considered in condition for allowance and the case passed to issue. If there are any questions regarding these remarks or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated to expedite prosecution of the application.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 19-1036.** Please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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6/6/2005
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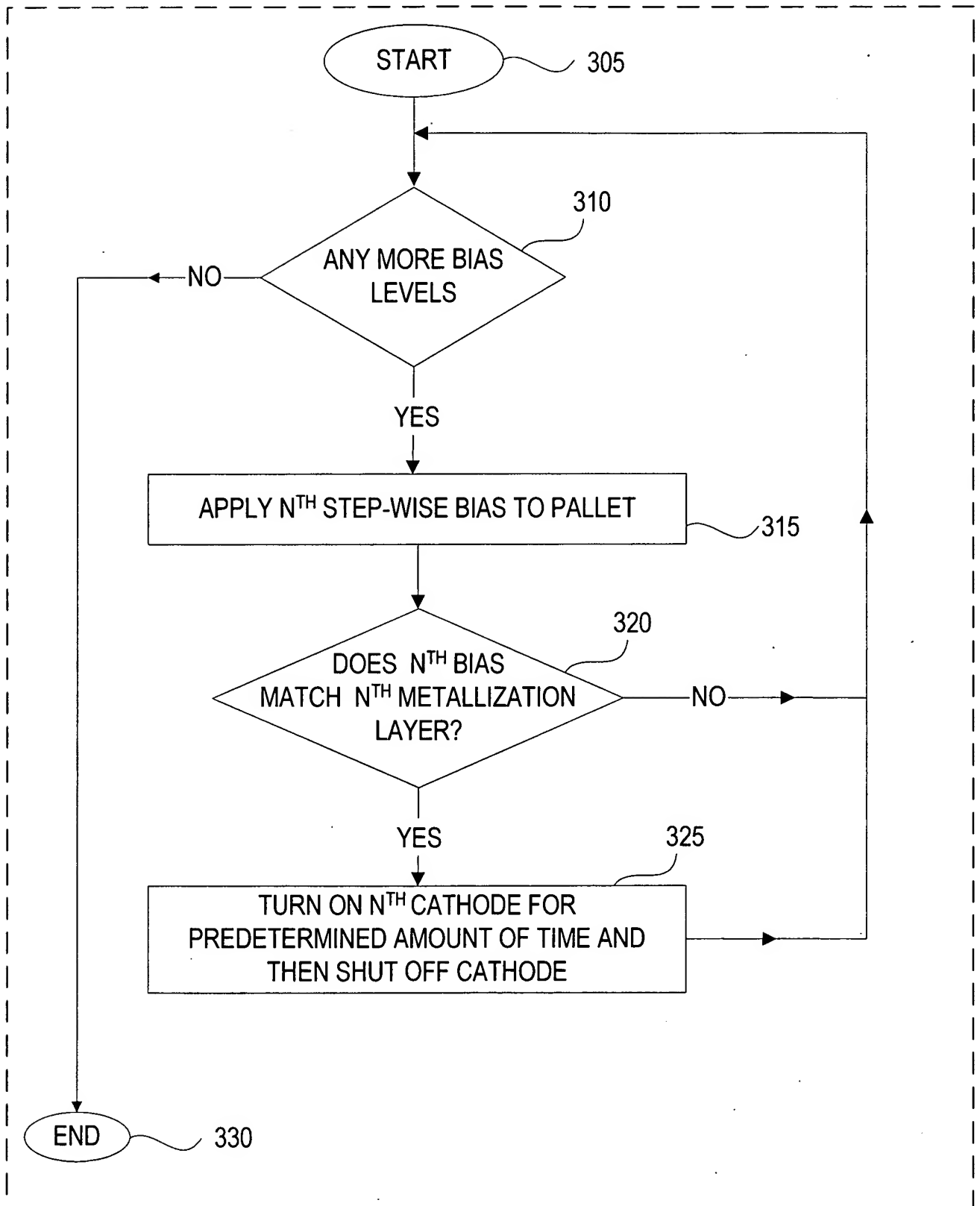


FIG. 3

**PRODUCTION OF MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM**

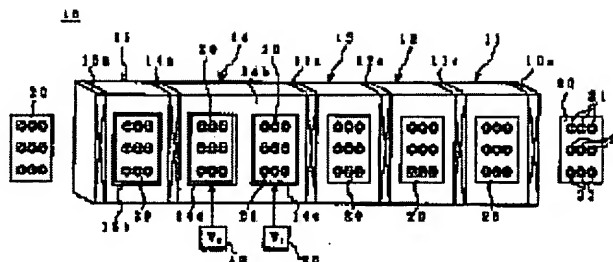
Patent number: JP7334843
Publication date: 1995-12-22
Inventor: YAMAGISHI MINORU
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Classification:
- **International:** G11B5/85; C23C14/34
- **European:**
Application number: JP19940121612 19940603
Priority number(s):

Report a data error here

Abstract of JP7334843

PURPOSE:To obtain a production method of a magnetic recording medium in which anisotropy of coercive force is improved and reduction of squareness ratio is suppressed even when gas pressure or flow rate of Ar gas for sputtering a film change a little.

CONSTITUTION:In a common chamber 14b, Cr targets are mounted opposedly to both surfaces of respective substrates 21 at the position of a first holder 14c, and a first bias voltage V1 is applied to form a Cr base film by sputtering. At the position of a second holder 14d, Co alloy targets are mounted opposedly to both surface of respective substrates 21, and a second bias voltage V2 is applied to form a Co alloy magnetic film by sputtering. Even when the Ar gas pressure or the like changes due to opening and closing of partition walls 13a, 14a, the anisotropy of coercive force is suppressed by large coercive force and the squareness ratio can be maintained nearly 1 by properly setting the bias voltages V1, V2.



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